

nih record



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Basketball Theme Encourages Team Spirit

NIH Kicks Off CFC Campaign

Under a bright blue sky with a mild breeze blowing and the rousing sounds of the H.D. Woodson High School pep band filling the air, NIH kicked off the 2006 Combined Federal Campaign Oct. 3 in front of Bldg. 31's C wing. More than 500 people attended the event that also featured the St. John's College High School color guard, a charity fair and a basketball free-throw contest.

"This year we have recast the CFC as a basketball season," said NIDCR director Dr. Lawrence Tabak, whose institute is leading this year's campaign. "We've even dubbed you the Commissioner of NIH Basketball," he told NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni, after thanking him for attending the kick-off and for his support of the CFC. Addressing the crowd, Tabak said, "You keyworkers are the team captains and the people in your offices are your players. It is your job to give leadership for the CFC among your teammates."



NIDCR director Dr. Lawrence Tabak shoots free throws at the CFC kickoff on Oct. 3.

SEE CFC BEGINS, PAGE 8



'Great Way to Bond'

23rd Institute Challenge Relay Features Most Teams Ever

Caryn Steakley had never run a race before, so a half-mile course—under competitive conditions, no less—seemed daunting. But after dropping more than a hundred pounds over a 2-year period, she was determined to undertake her next big hurdle: NIH's 2006 Institute Challenge Relay Race.

First Steakley decided to go into training. Perfecting a sales pitch heavy on enthusiasm, she solicited a little help from her friends—all fellow employees of the Center for Cancer

NIH Heart Center at Suburban Hospital Opens, in Partnership with Hopkins

A new phase of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's research partnership with Suburban Hospital began Sept. 29 with the official opening of the NIH Heart Center at Suburban Hospital.

For several years, NHLBI intramural scientists led by Dr. Andrew Arai and Dr. Robert Balaban have been engaged in a research program with Suburban on the use of MRI to diagnose heart attack and coronary artery disease in the emergency room. The NIH Heart Center will combine a broader research program involving NHLBI's newly reestablished intramural heart surgery program with Suburban's full-service cardiac surgery/cardiology program and with Johns Hopkins Medicine.

"The NIH Heart Center's integration of scientific research with superior heart care not only will help Suburban Hospital's patients but also will ultimately benefit heart patients across the country," said NHLBI director Dr. Eliza-

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briefs

'What's Up Doc?' A STEP Forum

The staff training in extramural programs (STEP) committee will present a Science for All forum on the topic, "What's Up Doc? Communicating Health Research Progress," on Thursday, Nov. 2 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Natcher conference center, Rms. E1/E2.

How does NIH get the word out about its health research advances and benefits to the public health? How do we develop and disseminate our message? How can we improve the information flow from investigators, extramural staff and communications offices to the public? In this forum, individuals from NIH, the media and health organizations will explore various strategies used to share information with our audiences. Learn what you can do to convey the positive impact of NIH on science and health at local, regional and national levels.

Talk on X Chromosome in Women's Health

The women's health special interest group will host a talk on "The Role of the X Chromosome in Women's Health and Sex-Specific Diseases," on Monday, Nov. 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. Speaker will be Dr. Barbara Migeon, professor, departments of pediatrics and biology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. If you need sign language interpretation, contact Vicki Malick at malickv@od.nih.gov at least 5 days before the seminar.

Molella Inaugurates NIMH Series

Innovative thinkers who have advanced fields as diverse as neuroengineering, small-molecule therapeutics and implementation of proven treatments in real-world settings will be featured in eight lectures presented in the NIMH Director's Innovation Speaker Series. The series begins Monday, Oct. 23 when the Smithsonian Institution's Dr. Arthur Molella, director of the Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation at the National Museum of American History, will discuss the personalities and motivations of creative thinkers in contemporary science. All lectures will be in conference rooms C and D, Neuroscience Center, 6001 Executive Blvd., at 3 p.m. For information, call Dr. David Armstrong at (301) 443-3534.

Zerhouni To Address NIH Alumni, Nov. 4

NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni will be the featured speaker at the annual meeting of the NIH Alumni Association on Saturday, Nov. 4 at 10

a.m. in the Lasker Center (Bldg. 60). He will provide an update on NIH activities and accomplishments. The meeting is open to NIHAA members and their guests.

Following Zerhouni's talk, NIHAA will present service awards to two alumni, Drs. Philip Chen and Victoria A. Harden, each of whom retired in 2006 from the Office of the NIH Director. Charles "Chick" Leasure, former NIH deputy director for management, is NIHAA president. The association, now in its 18th year, welcomes past and present staff on every level of NIH employment. For more information visit www.fnih.org/nihaa/nihaa.html.

Jolesz To Give Doppman Lecture, Oct. 25



Dr. Ferenc A. Jolesz, a leader in the field of radiological research, will give the Clinical Center's sixth annual John Doppman Memorial Lecture for Imaging Sciences. Jolesz will present "MRI-Guided Focused Ultrasound Surgery," on Wednesday, Oct. 25, at noon in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. He is the B. Leonard Holman professor of radiology at Harvard Medical School and vice chairman for research

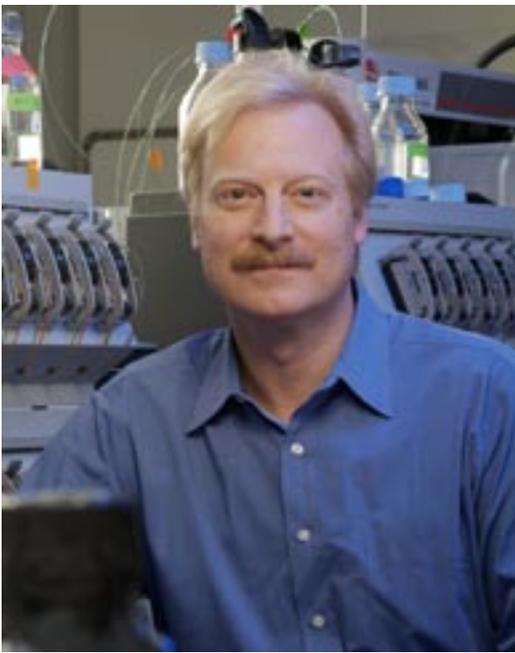
and director of the division of MRI and the image-guided therapy program in the department of radiology at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Jolesz spearheads the development and implementation of innovative image-processing methods and has brought several minimally invasive therapies into successful clinical application. He also is credited with developing, refining and introducing into clinical practice the idea of direct, real-time MR image-guided surgical interventions.

Crews Offers Keller Lecture, Nov. 7



Dr. Fulton Crews will give the 2006 Mark Keller Honorary Lecture on Tuesday, Nov. 7, at 1:30 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. Crews is professor of pharmacology and psychiatry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is director of the

Bowles Center for Alcohol Studies at UNC. The title of his talk is "Mechanisms of Neurodegeneration and Regeneration During Alcohol Addiction and Recovery." NIAAA established the lecture series as a tribute to Mark Keller, a pioneer in the field of alcohol research. The Keller lecturers are researchers who have made significant and long-term contributions to our understanding of alcohol's effects and how alcohol problems can be prevented and treated.



Stem Cell Regulation Is Focus of Oct. 25 Stetten Lecture

By Karin Jegalian

Throughout nearly 30 years of research, Dr. Rick Young of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has studied the expression of genes. Over time, he has moved from investigating the regulation of individual genes in yeast to exploring the global control of gene expression in humans. Most recently, he has begun charting the regulatory circuitry of embryonic stem (ES) cells, a project that promises to answer fundamental questions about animal development and yield medical benefits.

Young will discuss his work on stem cell regulation in this year's DeWitt Stetten, Jr. Lecture, titled, "Regulatory Circuitry of Embryonic Stem Cells." The talk, which is part of the NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series and is sponsored by NIGMS, will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10.

Young considers human embryonic stem cells to be in a kind of "ground state" and sees their study as a basis for understanding how other human cells are regulated. In practical terms, he expects that understanding ES cells will advance regenerative medicine, which could use the cells to replace defective, damaged or aging cells in the body. "Knowledge of the regulatory pathways is also essential to drug development," he says.

In his talk, Young will explain how his research team has approached the problem of studying cells' regulatory networks. "What we've been able to deduce is the very core of the regulatory circuitry of these cells," he says. "I imagine the whole picture is considerably more complicated than the circuit diagrams we've drawn so far."

Young says his most striking finding is that ES

cells go to a great deal of trouble to silence the genes encoding transcription factors that trigger the development of specific cell fates. "The whole family of developmental transcription factors is locked down silent," he says. One regulator in particular, called polycomb, appears to be key in silencing the other developmental regulators. While polycomb silences many transcription factors, it also seems to poise them for expression. "As soon as we stimulate ES cells to differentiate, the transcription factors that polycomb was silencing are immediately activated," Young says.

In 2002, he used yeast cells to show that it's possible to decipher the regulatory circuitry of an entire genome. He then extended his work to human cells and, in 2005, to stem cells.

"Rick's work on the genome-wide analysis of gene regulation and transcription has been growing in power over the years," says NIGMS director Dr. Jeremy Berg. "As my own research touches on these areas, I have seen the impact directly."

To study regulatory networks, Young and his lab members use commercially available microarray technology. Over the last 5 years, they have also developed new methods to support their systems biology approach, such as building computational algorithms and designing new ways of finding how proteins interact with the genome.

"Rick Young is an innovator. He pushes himself to take on a harder challenge and then develops the techniques to accomplish that," says Dr. Laurie Tompkins, a program director in the NIGMS Division of Genetics and Developmental Biology.

Young has been a professor of biology at MIT and a member of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research since 1984. He is also an associate member of the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard.

He received a B.S. in biological sciences from Indiana University in 1975 and a Ph.D. in molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale University in 1979. He conducted postdoctoral research at the Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research and at Stanford University. His honors include a Burroughs Wellcome Scholar Award and an NIH MERIT Award. Young has served as an advisor to NIH, the World Health Organization, and *Science* magazine. He has authored more than 200 research publications.

NIGMS has supported Young's research since 1984.

For more information or for reasonable accommodation, call Sandeep Nair at (301) 496-4920. ●



HEART CENTER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Above:

Present at the recent ribbon-cutting were (front row, from l) Susan Lee, Maryland State Delegate; Kristen Cox, Maryland Secretary of Disabilities, representing Gov. Bob Ehrlich; Joan Kleinman, district director for Rep. Chris Van Hollen; Brian Gagnolati, Suburban Hospital president and CEO; Dr. Keith Horvath, chief of cardiothoracic surgery at Suburban and director of NHLBI's Cardiothoracic Surgery Research Program; Dr. Edward Miller, dean of Johns Hopkins Medicine; Dr. Elizabeth Nabel, NHLBI director; Howard Dennis, Montgomery County councilman; and Dr. Eugene Passamani, senior vice president of medical affairs, Suburban Hospital.

beth Nabel at the ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening.

NHLBI had closed its intramural heart surgery program in 1990 due to small patient volume, cost issues and a shift in scientific priorities. According to Nabel, exciting new research opportunities in MRI imaging, stem cell research and minimally invasive heart surgery prompted the institute to consider reopening the program at the same time that Suburban was pursuing a new cardiac surgery initiative.

"Combining the research strengths of NHLBI with Suburban Hospital's excellent patient care and clinical focus made a lot of sense," she said.

Research studies already under way or planned include a study on neurocognitive changes after heart surgery (in collaboration with NINDS), MRI evaluation of patients with the aortic valve disease called aortic stenosis to assess the need for valve replacement and comparison of two different non-surgical procedures to correct arrhythmia in patients with atrial fibrillation. The Heart Center's future research agenda also includes studies of stem cell transplantation and MRI-guided robotic heart surgery.

In addition to conducting research and providing angioplasty and cardiac surgery, the Heart Center will also serve as a training facility with post-residency fellowships at Johns Hopkins. The Heart Center research program is led by Dr. Keith Horvath, chief of cardiothoracic surgery at Suburban and director of NHLBI's Cardiothoracic Surgery Research Program, and Dr. Kenneth Kent, chief of cardiology at Suburban and former NHLBI intramural scientist. ●

New Seminar Series on Management Issues Debuts Nov. 9

This November, a new seminar series is being launched by Colleen Barros, NIH deputy director for management (DDM). The DDM Seminar Series "Management and Science: Partnering for Excellence" is one of many efforts supporting management excellence at NIH. It is designed to bring outstanding speakers to discuss leadership and administrative management topics. It will also provide the administrative and scientific communities with an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas, questions and best practices.

NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni is scheduled to kick off the series on Thursday, Nov. 9 at 11 a.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The 1-hour seminar will feature Dr. Robert Kriegel, the first of four speakers in the 2006-2007 series.

Kriegel is the author of the national bestseller *If It Ain't Broke...BREAK IT!*, and has been called by *U.S. News & World Report* one of this country's leading authorities in the field of change and human performance. His book *Sacred Cows Make the Best Burgers* made *Business Week's* bestseller list in its first month. His latest book, *How To Succeed in Business Without Working So Damn Hard* focuses on innovation and out-of-the-box thinking. Kriegel is a commentator on National Public Radio's *Marketplace* program and has recently made two specials for PBS.

Other speakers in the series will include Jay Conger, D. Michael Abrashoff and Delores Ambrose.

Sign language interpretation will be provided. More information, including the DDM Seminar Series schedule, can be found on the Office of Management's web page at <http://ddm.od.nih.gov>. Call (301) 496-3271 if you have any further questions. ●



NCCAM Lecture on Natural Products, Oct. 25 in Masur Auditorium

Time and again, scientific research has found keys to the prevention or treatment of disease within the body itself. Breakthroughs occur with the development of tools that can speed the discovery process and the subsequent understanding of structure and function of human biology at the molecular level. Dr. Ram Sasisekharan, the fall speaker for the Distinguished Lectures in the Science of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, has developed such a tool for the study of glycans, the complex sugars or carbohydrates that surround all cells in the human body, opening up a field of research with vast implications for human health.

He will lecture on “Natural Products: Challenges and Opportunities,” on Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 11 a.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. During his talk, sponsored by NCCAM, he will share the challenges he has faced in conducting this research, the results of his work and the potential he sees to improve human health outcomes.

Sasisekharan is professor of biological engineering and health sciences and technology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he and a multidisciplinary team developed a high-speed sequencing technique for glycans. With new insights into the structure of complex carbohydrates, scientists have learned that they play a critical role in the communications between cells that cause cells to divide, migrate or die. Sasisekharan and his team of researchers have identified sugar sequences that can promote and inhibit tumor growth, with potential implications for cancer treatment. They have analyzed heparin, a clinically important sugar, and identified the location of its anticoagulant properties, making it possible to achieve more consistency in the composition of heparin used for surgery.

In another study, Sasisekharan and his team determined that complex sugars are key to ginseng’s activity in the body. They were able

to identify the different ingredients in ginseng that cause it to promote and to inhibit the formation of blood vessels, with implications for the healing of wounds and cancer control.

All are invited to attend the lecture. It will also be videocast on <http://videocast.nih.gov>. For reasonable accommodation, contact Karen Davison at (301) 348-1606, or the Federal Relay at 1-800-877-8339. For more information, visit www.nccam.nih.gov. 📍

‘Astute Clinician’ Lecture Addresses Cancer Immunotherapy

“Listening to Patients: Lessons Learned in the Development of Cancer Immunotherapy,” is the subject of the 2006 Astute Clinician Lecture, scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The speaker is Dr. Steven A. Rosenberg, chief of surgery, NCI, and a professor of surgery at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and at George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Rosenberg pioneered the development of immunotherapy that resulted in the first effective immunotherapies for selected patients with advanced cancer. He also pioneered gene therapy and was the first to successfully insert foreign genes into humans and to conduct clinical studies of gene therapy for cancer. His studies of cell transfer therapies resulted in cancer regressions in patients with clonal repopulation of lymphocytes with anti-tumor reactivity. More recently he and his group have genetically engineered normal lymphocytes using genes encoding anti-tumor T cell receptors and demonstrated that these modified cells could mediate cancer regression in patients, the first effective gene therapy for cancer.

Rosenberg is the author of over 820 articles in the scientific literature covering various aspects of cancer research and has authored 8 books. A study published by the Institute for Scientific Information in May 1999 revealed that he was the most cited clinician in the world in the field of oncology for the 17 years from 1981 to 1998.

The Astute Clinician Lecture was established through a gift from the late Dr. Robert W. Miller and his wife, Haruko. It honors a U.S. scientist who has observed an unusual clinical occurrence, and by investigating it, has opened an important new avenue of research. The lecture is an NIH Director’s Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series event. For information and accommodation, contact Sandeep Nair, (301) 496-1921. 📍





RELAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Top:
The annual Institute Challenge Relay brings together employees from all across NIH.

Below:
R&W President Randy Schools lays out ground rules for the race before the first heat begins.

Research and all seasoned runners. “They kept me going,” she said later, after her team, Ragin’ Agin CCRers, completed the race in 18:40. “They were all so supportive of me. And I finished!”

Steakley’s excitement was contagious and freshman NIH’er Laura Otten caught the fever. A member of CCR Screammers and one of about a

dozen runners Steakley recruited to run in the Sept. 21 relay, Otten enjoyed the event enough to email organizers: “I want to thank you and all of the organizers and volunteers for your hard work in organizing and hosting the NIH Relay yesterday,” she wrote. “I am a new employee (day 14!) and was tapped to fill in for an injured colleague. I had a blast! What a great

way to bond with my new colleagues and also to meet so many people from all over the NIH campus. I’ll look forward to participating in this event again next year!”

Founded by the NIH Health’s Angels (a campus running club now defunct), the relay is organized chiefly by staff and volunteers of the Recreation and Welfare Association, although a few members of the Angels are still around to time racers. R&W President Randy Schools says Otten’s comments reflect “one of the best reasons we do the race.”

About 118 teams registered to compete this year, with 107 actually completing the race. The average number of teams to race over the last few years has been about 80-90. Runners came from as far away as NIH’s Baltimore campus to compete. With so many teams, the race was run in two heats.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of the 5-lap race may be coming up with a team name. There has never been a lack of creative monikers and the 2006 event was no different, with such teams as Half-Athlons, Eye Run Fast, Assay Kickers, I Zinc I Can, eNIGMaS, Inverse Insertions in the ARS, Kiss Meiosis Again and Nutso Fast all toeing the start line.

In addition to the camaraderie and spirit of competition, Mother Nature also provided a big incentive to take part in the event. No one could remember a crisper, clearer or cooler day to sprint a partially uphill circuit around Bldg. 1 at high noon.—Carla Garnett



PHOTOS (EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE NOTED): ERNIE BRANSON



Sporting tie-dyed Ts, members of Team #3—the Ragin Agin CCRers—Giovanna Tosato (c) and Dan Fowler complete the baton exchange, as teammate Caryn Steakley cheers them on.



Off and running: The relay's first heat began a little before noon on Sept. 21.



The costumed Eccentrifuges include (from l) Mirkka Janka-Juntilla, Frank Comer, Lakshmi Balagopalan, Rishi Surana and Kelsie Bernot. They were dressed as falcon tubes—a graduated cylindrical, plastic container with a conical bottom and a blue cap (hence the blue mouse-room caps). “Falcon tubes are placed in centrifuges,” explained Balagopalan. “Once the centrifuge is turned on, the tube rotates around a fixed axis, analogous to our running around Bldg. 1 for the relay—many layers of complexity to our name and outfits! We are realistic—we knew we wouldn’t come first in the relay. So instead we opted for the other path to glory—geeky humor. Surprisingly, we came in 30th out of 107 teams with a respectable time of 16:46.” PHOTO: CAROL REGAN



Above: NIH Whistleblowers: A couple of Art’s Army members toot along with Dr. Richard Wyatt, assistant director of the Office of Intramural Research, who started the relay.

Below: Team #1, the Silvo Bullets, slap high-fives as the anchor runner crosses the finish line.



2006 Relay Results—Top 25

Place	Name	Time
1	Proud Snail Hunters	13:59
2	Bolting Electrons	14:25
3	Wurtz Possible Runners	14:34
4	Catch Me If You Can	14:51
5	Blair Swift Project	15:03
6	Asthma Attacks	15:13
7	Figg Leaf	15:14
8	The Nitros	15:20
9	Roundabouts	15:22
10	Atroglide	15:30
11	Fruits and Nuts	15:37
12	Run for Fun	15:49
13	Natural Winner Cells	15:52
14	Waisted Kinetics	15:54
15	Running Buffers	16:01
16	Running Averages	16:02
17	Racy Ears	16:03
18	Big and Benign	16:10
19	Go Fish	16:15
20	Lethal Factors	16:15
21	Running Without Sox2	16:25
22	CD Four Runners	16:25
23	5’ RACERs	16:35
24	V “Eye” P	16:39
25	Mobile Side Chains	16:39



Top: Winners once again: Proud Snail Hunters (from l) Greg Schuler, Jack Logue, Christiam Camacho, Kathi Canese and Patricia Zervas return to the winner’s circle with a finishing time of 13:59 after placing 2nd last year.

Center: Bolting Electrons (from l) Jennifer Gillette, Rachid Sougrat, Adam Bennett, Nadia Bouhzam and Guida Landoure came in at 14:25 to capture 2nd place.

Bottom: Wurtz Possible Runners (from l) Bruce Cumming, Okihide Hikosaka, Ralf Haefner, Hendrikje Nienborg and Allie Griswold took 3rd place, crossing the finish line at 14:34.



CFC BEGINS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Top:
Spirited members of the H.D. Woodson High School pep band filled the CFC kickoff with music and excitement on Oct. 3.

Above:
NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni (l) and NIDCR director Dr. Lawrence Tabak arrive at the opening ceremony, held on the plaza between Bldg. 31C and the new Bldg. 33.

PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON

We want the charities and the people they help to be the winners. How you play the game will matter," he said. "Your energy and your skills will make a difference."

Tabak also had a surprise for the crowd. "To show you how far Dr. Zerhouni will go to show he's on your team, NIH's 2006 CFC produced a special poster," he said. To approving applause from the audience, he unveiled a poster that shows Zerhouni, in shirtsleeves and a loosened tie, slam-dunking a basketball.

Zerhouni had a surprise of his own. He offered an incentive to NIH employees to exceed last year's contributions of slightly more than \$2 million: The NIH director announced that he would grow a beard if NIH surpassed the 2005 number. Tabak could even dictate what style the beard should be, Zerhouni said to laughter and applause.

Master of ceremonies Johnny Holliday, radio personality and the voice of University of Maryland basketball and football, touched on the

topic of a basketball free throw as a metaphor for the campaign. Whether you're an NBA great or a grade-school player, he said, you get the same shot at the free-throw line. And like the basketball free throw, he continued, each team member at NIH should "step up to the line" and give it their best shot. He reminded attendees that every dollar, like every free throw, counts.

In a talk that illustrated how CFC contributions help real people, Mary Kaye Richter, head of the National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias, spoke about the importance of CFC donations to organizations such as hers. NFED serves families affected by ectodermal dysplasia syndromes. Those born with the disorder lack many or all of their teeth, most of their hair and the ability to sweat normally. Depending on the condition—there are more than 150 clinically recognized manifestations of EDS—most kids with the disorder typically need wigs, access to air conditioning and dentures or dental implants, which have been reported recently to run as high as \$40,000 per jaw.

Richter said donations from federal employees really make a difference in the life of the non-profits. "In our case, the CFC money goes into our family services fund. That's where we help kids find treatment, educate families and practitioners and assist with sorting out insurance claims," she said. "It's the difference between cutting a program in the family services fund or keeping it going."

Like Zerhouni, Richter had an incentive for



Radio personality Johnny Holliday poses with Mary Kaye Richter, head of the National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias, prior to the festivities.

NIH'ers to get their pledge cards in: She promised a cheesecake to every IC that meets its goal by Dec. 8.

After the speeches, the crowd gathered around the makeshift basketball court where Tabak and representatives from almost every IC stepped up to the line to sink as many free throws as possible in 30 seconds. Tabak held his own, making 7; the winner, making 10 shots, was Larry Wongus of ORF, who was awarded a basketball signed by Maryland basketball head coach Gary Williams. Wongus also won an iPod for ORF that will be given to a deserving CFC keyworker or contributor in that organization.



Nothin' But Net—ORF's Larry Wongus accepts congratulations from CFC facilitator Kristin Oliver after he won the free-throw contest. He received a basketball signed by Gary Williams, head coach of the University of Maryland men's team.

NIDCD Grantees Receive Tibbetts Award



NIDCD grantees Dr. Daniel S. Arick (l) and Dr. Shlomo Silman of Arisil, Inc., recently received the Tibbetts Award "in recognition of significant achievements involving technological innovation related to the federal Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR)." Arisil received funding through NIDCD's SBIR program for the

development and testing of the EarPopper, a non-surgical, non-drug treatment of hearing loss caused by otitis media with effusion and eustachian tube dysfunction. The EarPopper is patented and has FDA approval as a medical device available through prescription. Arick and Silman (holding the EarPopper) are shown here with Tiana, one of the children who participated in a clinical trial of the device.

Free Flu Vaccinations for Employees

The Occupational Medical Service will again offer free influenza vaccinations to NIH employees only, starting Oct. 30. Employees must bring their NIH photo ID; contractors may not participate. Patrons are asked to wear clothing that permits easy access to the upper arm; changing areas are not available.

Vaccinations will be given based on the first letter of the employee's last name. Those who show up on the wrong day may have to wait a bit longer.

On-Campus Schedule, Clinical Research Center, first floor patient transport entrance (follow the signs)

Hours are 7:30-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. for all on-campus dates

Date	First Letter of Last Name
Monday, Oct. 30	TUVWXYZ
Tuesday, Oct. 31	IJKLM
Wednesday, Nov. 1	EFGH
Thursday, Nov. 2	ABCD
Friday, Nov. 3	NOPQRS
Monday, Nov. 13	NOPQRS
Tuesday, Nov. 14	TUVWXYZ
Wednesday, Nov. 15	IJKLM
Thursday, Nov. 16	EFGH
Friday, Nov. 17	ABCD

Off-Campus Sites

Date	Location	Morning	Afternoon
Nov. 6-7	NSC/Rm. 8120	8:30-11	1-3
Nov. 8-9	EPN/Rm. 103	8:30-11	1-3
Nov. 20-21	RKL1/5th floor	8:30-11	1-3
Nov. 22	Poolesville/Rm. 110	8:30-10	N/A
	Rm. 103	10:15-11:30	N/A
Nov. 27	Twinbrook 3/2E06	8:30-11	1-3

Open Clinic at OMS Bldg. 10/Rm. 6C306

Nov. 28-Dec. 1, open to all NIH employees from 7:30 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. Starting Dec. 4, the flu vaccine will be available in OMS by appointment only. Call (301) 496-4411. The vaccine schedule is also available at www.foi-theflu.nih.gov.

Diversity-Enhancing Program Marks Anniversary

When mostly minority college students being groomed for careers in mental health-related research convene in Washington, D.C., early next month, an NIMH program to promote diversity in the scientific workforce will mark a quarter century of progress. The students will share their latest research findings and gain inspiration from working scientists who were also once nurtured by the Career Opportunities in Research (COR) program, one of only two such NIH grant programs supporting undergraduate education. The 25th annual COR Education and Training Colloquium will be held Nov. 1-5 at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel.

The meeting will bring together about 160 COR scholars—junior and senior honors students from 19 colleges and universities with predominantly racial and ethnic minority students—their faculty mentors, role model alumni, recruiters from graduate schools and NIMH program staff. Students will showcase their research projects in poster and oral presentations and interact with COR alumni and leaders in the field.

Among highlights will be talks by alumni who have become independent investigators. The keynote address, “Why I Love My Job in Research,” will be given by Dr. Jacqueline Nassy Brown of the department of anthropology at Hunter College.

“You get to meet students from all over the country who are in the same situation as you are and share your interests, such as minority research,” said Hector Lopez, a senior in the psychology COR program at the University of Texas at El Paso. He will be presenting a poster on a study of “Club Drug Use in Hispanic College Students,” which he said found 17-25 percent prevalence rates. The El Paso native hopes to pursue a doctorate in clinical psychology and says his COR affiliation has helped him connect with professors at prospective graduate programs.

To increase representation of racial and ethnic minorities, the NIMH COR program provides support for honors juniors and seniors interested in pursuing careers in the mental health-related sciences. Applicants are evaluated on their individual merits by the host institution, mostly historically black and Hispanic-serving colleges and universities. COR trainees must complete approximately 20 semester hours beyond the requirement for the bachelor's degree. Working in the research laboratory of their mentor, they assist with experiments and prepare and present abstracts, poster sessions and scientific talks. They are also expected to attend national scientific meetings, submit scientific papers for publication and participate in a summer research project at a university other than their parent institution. These experiences prepare the students for success in gaining admission to—and completing—doctoral graduate programs. After receiving their bachelors degrees, 75-80 percent of COR trainees go directly to graduate school.—**Jules Asher** 📍



Coulombe Joins NICHD

Dr. James Coulombe recently joined NICHD as a program director responsible for grants in the areas of developmental genetics and developmental immunology. Before joining NICHD he had been a staff scientist at NINDS and an assistant professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. His research involved the study of how the cells that are targets of neurons influence the type of neurotransmitter ultimately produced by that neuron. Coulombe earned a B.A. in biology from the University of California, San Diego, and a Ph.D. in biological sciences from the University of California, Irvine.

CIT Computer Training Fall Term Now in Session

The CIT Training Program's fall term of computer classes is now open for registration. With over 120 different topics, more than 20 of them new, there is something to help everyone become more productive. Classes, as always, are available free of charge to NIH staff.

Are you part of the new trend of employees periodically working from home? Does your group need to collaborate with colleagues in remote locations? If so, Home Networking Fundamentals, Working from Home—Understand the Technologies, Breeze 5 and Podcasting at NIH may be of interest to you.

CIT has added another class to a popular list of Excel classes: Creating PivotTables & Charting in Excel 2003. Other personal computing classes include Macintosh OS X Tips and Tricks; Adobe Acrobat—Introduction; and Word Topics: Reviewing and Tracking.

There is also a new class titled Wiki Introduction along with regular web development training for users with many levels of experience. A wiki is a type of web site that allows multiple users to add, remove or modify content quickly and easily. This seminar will give examples of wikis and show how this new collaborative technology will help you to share information with the NIH community and others.

This term has added a number of new grants-related classes including ECB Data Administration—Basic and Advanced; and eRA Workshop—Applying for NIH Grants Electronically.

Scientific seminars make up nearly 40 percent of the courses; most are designed to deliver valuable information in less than a day. New classes include NCBI's Identification of Disease Genes to Phenotypes, Clustering: How Do They Make Those Dendrograms and Heat Maps, Gene Synthesis Using DNAWorks, Introduction to Rosetta on the Biowulf Cluster, Database Design—Modeling and Normalization, Laser-Gene Introduction and LaserGene Hands-on Workshop.

You can obtain full course information, register for fall classes, join the CIT training mailing list and check out your transcript or current application status at <http://training.cit.nih.gov>. If you have questions about the CIT Training Program, call (301) 594-6248 ext. 2 or email CITTraining@mail.nih.gov. 📍

Grantees Win 2006 Nobel Prizes

NIH grantees of long duration swept the medicine-related 2006 Nobel Prizes; two shared the prize in physiology or medicine and one won the chemistry prize outright.

The physiology/medicine prize went to Dr. Andrew Z. Fire of Stanford University School of Medicine and Dr. Craig C. Mello of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. They were honored for their discovery of RNA interference, a mechanism for silencing genes that could lead to new disease treatments.

Dr. Roger D. Kornberg, also of Stanford School of Medicine, won the chemistry prize for his studies of how genetic information is transcribed into RNA, which is translated to make proteins, molecules essential to life. If the transcription process stops, genetic information is no longer transferred. "Illnesses like cancer, heart disease and various other kinds of inflammation are linked to disturbances in the transcription process," said NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni. "Understanding this process in more detail may provide researchers with the needed tools to develop new treatments for diseases."

Over 37 years, NIH has provided more than \$24 million to support Kornberg's research. He has been funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the National Cancer Institute. Kornberg's father Arthur, also an NIH grantee, shared the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine in 1959, making the Kornbergs one of more than half a dozen parent-child Nobel laureates.

NIGMS began supporting the work of Fire in 1987 and Mello in 1999. Over the years, NIGMS has provided nearly \$8.5 million to the two scientists. The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development has also provided more than \$3 million to support Mello's research. The two scientists published their findings in 1998.

"[These] Nobelists used experiments with nematode worms to find a mechanism that can silence genes in humans. Many diseases develop when genes don't work properly, so RNA interference offers a tremendous potential to create a new generation of drugs targeted to these and other conditions," said Zerhouni. 🗨️

Stokes Honored by Veterinary Organization



Dr. William Stokes recently received the Charles River Prize for distinguished contributions to the field of laboratory animal medicine and science from the American Veterinary Medical Association. He was recognized for establishing procedures to validate and gain regulatory acceptance of new safety testing methods to reduce, refine and replace animal use. Stokes is a doctor of veterinary medicine and currently serves as director of the National Toxicology Program Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods, headquartered at NIEHS. A captain in the Commissioned Corps, he is a 20-year veteran of NIH and chief veterinary officer for the Public Health Service.



Dr. Anita B. Roberts was an exceptional mentor and scientist. The former chief of NCI's Laboratory of Cell Regulation and Carcinogenesis died last May 26. A lecture series has been named in her honor.

Nabel Gives Roberts Memorial Lecture

The NIH women scientist advisors (WSA) committee has initiated a new seminar series—the Anita B. Roberts Lecture Series: WSA Distinguished Scientist Speakers. It will highlight outstanding research achievements of women scientists in the intramural research program at NIH. NHLBI director Dr. Elizabeth Nabel will present the first lecture on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 2:30 p.m. in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10. Nabel, who is also chief of the vascular biology and genomics section, NHGRI, will speak on "Genomic Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease." Her research focuses on defining the pathways that regulate cell growth in the vasculature, remodel the vasculature after injury and lead to genetic susceptibility to vascular diseases.

The series is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Anita B. Roberts, honoring her role as an exceptional mentor and scientist. Former chief of the Laboratory of Cell Regulation and Carcinogenesis, NCI, she died on May 26. She is well-known for her pioneering work on transforming growth factor-beta and its role in wound-healing, carcinogenesis and autoimmune disease. Her published work is among the top 50 most-cited research papers and she is the second most-cited female scientist in the world. Roberts was an outstanding mentor and her extremely productive laboratory provided a nurturing environment for many scientists. She served as an example of balancing family and work life and will be remembered as unfailingly warm, caring, enthusiastic and supportive.

The seminar is cosponsored by the Office of Research on Women's Health and the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences. It is open to the public and attendees are invited to a reception following the lecture in the amphitheater lobby. Sign language interpreters will be provided on request. Individuals with disabilities who need reasonable accommodation to participate should contact Cynthia Nishikawa Fabry, (301) 496-5717, and/or the Federal Relay, 1-800-877-8339, 5 days prior to the lecture.

Moshell Retires from NIAMS

Dr. Alan N. Moshell, long-time chief of the Skin Diseases Branch at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, has retired. He started in his position in 1982 with the National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, continuing on after that institute was split into NIAMS and NIDDK in 1986.



Researchers know him as the “go-to guy” at NIAMS, an expert in the regulations of extramural research and how to follow them. Having served at NIAMS since its formation, Moshell is known as a repository of institute history. Among his many accomplishments at NIH, he cites: being part of the research team and coauthor of the 1988 *New England Journal of Medicine* article that was the

first proof in humans that drugs could be used to prevent cancer; organizing the NIH consensus development conference on Diagnosis and Treatment of Early Melanoma, which changed the way early melanoma is treated in the U.S. and the world; developing the original individual and institutional physician-scientist development awards (K11 and K12), the mechanism that is now being used for many Roadmap initiatives; and developing the special fellowship in epidemiology, outcomes research and clinical trials research in skin disease used to help develop a cadre of specially trained scientists in an underserved area of medicine.

Moshell considers his most significant contribution to NIAMS’s mission to be “continually keeping the skin disease research community, as well as the larger community of researchers in NIAMS’s areas, informed about the workings of the institute and the NIH as a whole.”

As well, he says, he has helped researchers determine the best way to interact with NIH and NIAMS and maximize their likelihood of success.

“I believe my most lasting effect will be that several generations of researchers realize that NIH is not a ‘black box,’ that there are people ready, willing and anxious to assist applicants who take the time to inquire and that many program directors with whom I have worked over the years bring to their job that

same attitude: that our prime role is to assist the applicant to make the best use of the available NIH support.”

Moshell has served as president of the D.C. Dermatology Society and currently chairs the Federal Council on Skin Cancer Prevention. He recently received the Presidential Award from the Society for Investigative Dermatology “in honor of his contributions to advancing dermatological science, in gratitude for guidance and support of our members in funding their work and in recognition of his consummate professionalism and integrity.” He also received the NIH Director’s Award in 1990.

Moshell will continue as special volunteer clinical consultant to the Dermatology Branch, NCI. He will also become director of resident education at the department of dermatology at Washington Hospital Center.

NIAMS director Dr. Stephen Katz said, “Alan will be greatly missed, both by the NIAMS staff and by the researchers who depended on his expertise to further their research. We are very grateful to him for his years of service to the institute and wish him all the best in his very active retirement.”

Hollander Named NIEHS Associate Director for Management

Marc Hollander was recently named executive officer at NIEHS, holding the official title of associate director for management. He is a veteran executive with a track record of successfully facilitating coordination between administrative and scientific personnel and managing scientific operations.

Before joining NIEHS, Hollander was manager of the Management and Technical Support Office at NASA’s Engineering and Safety Center. Prior to that, he served as deputy assistant secretary and chief financial officer for the science and technology directorate, Department of Homeland Security. Among his roles at DHS was his position as first center director of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, formerly part of the Department of Agriculture.



Hollander joined the Department of Energy as a budget officer in 1989, rising to a Senior Executive Service position as the first chief information officer in the National Nuclear Security Administration.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in accounting from George Mason University and a master’s degree in management from Florida Institute of Technology.

Hollander noted, “I am delighted that Rich Freed has accepted the position of deputy executive officer, providing his invaluable insight and vast operational knowledge into the NIH as well as NIEHS’s inner workings. I see Rich and me as a solid team on behalf of NIEHS and am looking forward to working together.”



NICHD's Dr. Joanne Luoto meets with then-Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop.

NICHD Mourns Death of Luoto

Dr. Joanne Luoto, scientist administrator in NICHD's Contraception and Reproductive Health Branch, died on June 9 from a rare form of cancer. She was 58 years old.

Her work focused on research evaluation of contraceptive methods, including oversight of spermicide contraceptive efficacy trials and studies of steroidal contraception and potential HIV risk. She also oversaw research in the evaluation of colposcopy, intrauterine devices and acquired tubal infertility, and the studies of hormones, cervical ectopy and STI (sexually transmitted infection) acquisition. She worked collaboratively with other organizations dealing with barrier contraceptives, including the FDA.

"Dr. Luoto was a good friend and colleague and a fine scientist," said NICHD director Dr. Duane Alexander. "Her concern for the patients affected by the results of the clinical trials she oversaw drove her to carry out the trials with rigor and all possible speed."

Luoto received her B.A. in biology from Swarthmore College. After receiving her M.D. from the Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1973, she began her career at the National Cancer Institute as a program director for gynecologic oncology. She later joined the office of the assistant secretary for health, first in the Office on Smoking and Health and later as director of the Office of Refugee Health.

She joined NICHD's Contraception and Reproductive Health Branch as a scientist administrator in 1995. In 2003, she received the NIH Director's Award for her work establishing a network of interrelated studies of women's HIV risk and steroidal contraceptive use in Africa.

"Joanne was a person of great integrity and loyalty, both to the NIH and the federal government," said Dr. Bob Spirtas, former chief of the Contraception and Reproductive Health Branch. "She was deeply involved with her work and carried it out to the highest standards."

Away from work, Luoto enjoyed cooking for her friends and colleagues. She also collected jewelry and was interested in gemology. Remembers one of her closest friends, NIH coworker Lois Thomas: "Joanne was good-hearted and very down-to-earth. If she could help you with anything, she would." 🗨️

NCI's Cho-Chung Dies

Dr. Yoon Sang Cho-Chung, chief of the cellular biochemistry section in NCI's Basic Research Laboratory, died July 8 at age 72.

She received her M.D. degree in 1958 from Seoul Women's Medical School in Korea and her Ph.D. in 1963 at McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research, University of Wisconsin, where she elucidated mechanisms of metabolic feedback regulation in rat hepatomas. As a research associate, she studied yeast genetics with H. Edwin Umbarger at Purdue University.

In 1970, Cho-Chung joined NCI as a visiting scientist; she became known for her pioneering spirit and her dedication to cancer research. Within 10 years she had established her own laboratory, the cellular biochemistry section. She was



one of the first scientists who explored the field of therapeutic oligonucleotides. In 1996, she founded the NIH inter-institute therapeutic oligonucleotide interest group, which she headed until her death. In that capacity, she organized and chaired more than 90 seminars and 8 symposia, which attracted scientists from around the world.

Cho-Chung authored or coauthored more than 200 peer-reviewed research publications, of which 44 were invited editorials and reviews, as well as 31 invited seminars worldwide. Her creative approaches to cancer research produced 10 patents and six licenses and earned her the NIH Inventor Award every year since 1998. She also won the NIH Bench-to-Bedside Award, which is helping fund clinical trials of one of her anti-cancer drugs. In addition, she received a Federal Technology Transfer Award and the NCI Sustained Superior Performance Award.

In addition to her cancer research, Cho-Chung was a member of six editorial boards for scientific publications, concurrently, and was also a member of several national and international scientific advisory committees. Moreover, she was an exceptional mentor, training more than 60 postdoctoral fellows and 39 predoctoral and medical students.

Cho-Chung's friends, colleagues and students recall her exceptional dedication to them: "The generosity with which she devoted her time to working with all of us will be appreciated by us for the rest of our lives," said one. "She possessed a love of knowledge and an eternal spring of enthusiasm...She lived every day as if it were her first."

She is survived by her husband Jay, her son David and her daughter Christina. 🗨️

CIT Computer Classes

All courses are given without charge. For more information call (301) 594-6248 or consult the training program's home page at <http://training.cit.nih.gov>.

NIH Portal for Community Managers	10/23
NIH Data Warehouse Analyze: Budget & Finance	10/24
NIH Data Warehouse Analyze: Human Resources	10/24
Excel Advanced Topics - PivotTables	10/24
Word Topics: Reviewing and Tracking	10/24
Analyzing Microarray Data Using the mAdb System	10/24-25
Wiki Introduction	10/25
Watchfire WebXM	10/25
GeneGo's MetaCore	10/27
Advanced QVR Training	10/30
NIH Portal Document Directory	10/31
Network Security and Firewalls	10/31
Introduction to mAdb	10/31

NIH Training Center Classes

The Training Center supports the development of NIH human resources through consultation and provides training, career development programs and other services designed to enhance organizational performance. For more information call (301) 496-6211 or visit <http://LearningSource.od.nih.gov>.

NIH Foreign Travel (NBS) Travel System	10/23-24
Delegated Acquisition Training Program	10/24-27
Introduction to NIH Property Management	10/24-25
Knowledge Management and Strategic Human Capital	10/26
Basic Time and Attendance Using ITAS	10/30-31

FAES Holds Insurance Open Season

The FAES Health Insurance Program is conducting Open Season from Nov. 1-22, and 27-30. The program is open to those who work for or at NIH in full-time positions but are not eligible for government plans. This includes NIH fellows, special volunteers, guest researchers, contractors and full-time temporary personnel. The minimum enrollment period is 3 months. Benefits along with changes to coverage take effect Jan. 1, 2007.

Open Season is for those who did not enroll when first eligible and for current subscribers to make changes. Appointments are required to make changes to medical coverage but not for dental enrollment. FAES offers CareFirst BlueCross/BlueShield PPO and a voluntary HMO/PPO dental plan through Cigna.

More information may be obtained from the FAES web site at www.faes.org or from the FAES business office, Bldg. 10, Rm. B1C18. To schedule an appointment, call (301) 496-8063. FAES is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NIH To Recognize Disability Employment Awareness Month

The NIH 23rd annual Disability Employment Awareness Program will be held on Thursday, Oct. 26 from 11 a.m. to noon in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. The theme for this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month (October) is "Americans with Disabilities: Ready for Global Workforce." Keynote speaker Brig. Gen. Clara L. Adam-Ender (ret.) will discuss her experiences working with wounded soldiers returning from war and their future in the workforce after discharge. The first 20 attendees will receive a signed copy of Ender's memoirs, *My Rise To The Stars*.

There will also be a demonstration of accessible office equipment, sponsored by the Department of Defense's Computerized Accommodation/Electronic Program, in the former Visitor Information Center atrium. Sign language interpreters will be provided. For individuals with disabilities who need reasonable accommodation, contact Carlton Coleman, (301) 496-2906 or the Federal Relay, 1-800-877-8339.

Annual Leave: Use It or Lose It

Annual leave in excess of the maximum carryover balance (in most cases 240 hours) is normally forfeited if not used by the end of the current leave year. If you have not already planned to take those excess hours of annual leave, you should discuss your leave with your supervisor now while there is still time to schedule it. Your bi-weekly Leave and Earnings Statement tells you how much annual leave you must use so that you will not lose it when the leave year ends on Saturday, Jan. 6, 2007.

In spite of planning, circumstances sometimes arise that prevent you from taking leave that has been scheduled and approved earlier during the leave year. In such cases, you and your supervisor are jointly responsible for ensuring that any "use or lose" leave is officially rescheduled. This year, your "use or lose" leave must be scheduled not later than Saturday, Nov. 25.

If you or your supervisor have questions about "use or lose" leave, contact your administrative officer.

NIH Library Offers Hands-on QUOSA Class

QUOSA is an integrated suite of software tools designed to facilitate full-article retrieval and management and full-text searching. Register now for the Dec. 6 hands-on training. Basic and advanced QUOSA classes are offered. Five additional free classes are offered this season. For details on all classes, visit <http://nihlibrary.nih.gov/Resource-Training/>.



Volunteers Needed for Anthrax Vaccine Study

NICHD is seeking healthy volunteers, ages 18-30, to participate in an investigational anthrax vaccine study. Medical tests will determine eligibility. Compensation is provided. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010). Refer to study 04-CH-0283.

Have Enlarged Gums?

Do you have enlarged gums and are you taking dilantin, cyclosporine or calcium-channel blockers? If so, take part in an NIH study. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010).

People with Tongue Problems Needed

Individuals with tongue weakness or tongue movement coordination problems are needed for a study. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010).

Kidney Transplant Offered

Do you have kidney failure and need a kidney transplant? NIH has kidney transplant studies designed to reduce need for anti-rejection drugs. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010).

Children, Adolescents Needed

NIH invites healthy children and adolescents who are overweight to participate in a clinical study. Parents, call 1-866-444-2214 or TTY 1-866-411-1010 for information. Participants will be compensated.

Panic Disorder Treatment Study

The anxiety disorders research lab at American University seeks individuals who experience panic attacks to participate in a 7-week psychotherapy treatment study. Participants must be 18 or older and have experienced panic symptoms for more than 1 month. The initial assessment to determine qualification may take 1-3 hours. Qualified volunteers may be eligible for compensation. For more information call (202) 885-1729.

Study of Ovarian Function

Healthy women ages 18 through 25 are needed for an ovarian function study. Compensation is provided. Call 1-866-444-2214 (TTY 1-866-411-1010). Refer to study 00-CH-0189.

CIT's Pilgrim's Life Celebrated

Richard "Rick" Pilgrim, 51, who retired from NIH in February 2005, passed away on July 17 in Fairfax, Va., from respiratory and heart failure. His determination to live a full and productive life as a C-1 quadriplegic is what his NIH colleagues and surviving parents, Inez and Clyde Pilgrim, continue to celebrate.

Thirty-three years ago, Pilgrim was injured in a shooting incident. After completing 5 years of rehabilitation he began a successful 27-year federal career at NIH.

He worked part-time as a computer programmer at the Center for Information Technology, writing code and supporting computer applications for the Clinical Center and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. He was able to work from home using voice-recognition software, which used audio spectrum sound waves to convert his speech into text. Ryan Wilvert, one of Pilgrim's friends and coworkers, said, "Rick's everyday determination and zeal helped him overcome all obstacles in work and in life."

Over the course of his career, Pilgrim became a pioneer in the use of voice-recognition software. He and his colleagues enjoyed the challenge of adapting the evolving technology to fit his needs.

"It was such a blessing to be able to work with Rick," noted his CIT supervisor and friend, Renee Edwards. "Rick Pilgrim was an exceptional and dedicated employee. His work with the CIT Division of Enterprise and Custom Applications was outstanding, but it is his attitude and perseverance that we all always celebrated."

Pilgrim made a point of participating in CIT and NIH events. His colleagues would regularly go to his house in Fairfax to work on his computer system and would often be invited to stay and enjoy a meal with the family.

In 1987, he received the Public Health Service Outstanding Handicapped Employee Award. An advocate for the disability community, Pilgrim worked on several inter-agency committees and spoke at symposia throughout the metro area.

As he once said, "If I can do it, other disabled people can do it. They need hope. They need determination. These two ingredients combined can make us better people." —**Claire Gooding**

Mary Tyler Moore Launches NLM Magazine

PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON

Who can turn the world on with her...commitment to high-quality health information? Television icon and spokesperson for diabetes research Mary Tyler Moore was on hand Sept. 20 for the Capitol Hill launch of NIH MedlinePlus magazine. The inaugural issue, which follows a pilot issue published in May, is being sent to doctors' offices nationwide, so that patients can learn about NIH and benefit from the information resulting from NIH-sponsored research. The issue features a cover story about Moore and her tireless diabetes research advocacy, plus articles on arthritis, breast cancer, the flu and the Children's Inn. NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni spoke at the event, describing how the new magazine fulfills a commitment to Congress to publicize the fruits of NIH-sponsored research to patients, families and the public. Other speakers at the launch included NLM director Dr. Donald Lindberg, Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Rep. Ralph Regula (R-OH). The magazine is cosponsored by the nonprofit Friends of the National Library of Medicine. A PDF copy of NIH MedlinePlus is available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/FNLMP%20Programs.html>.



Above:

On hand for the magazine launch were (from l) NIH director Dr. Elias Zerhouni, Rep. Ralph Regula, Mary Tyler Moore, former Rep. Paul Rogers and NLM director Dr. Donald Lindberg.

Left:

Moore has long been a spokesperson for diabetes research.

Below:

Sen. Tom Harkin (l) joins Rogers at the podium at the Sept. 20 event on Capitol Hill.

